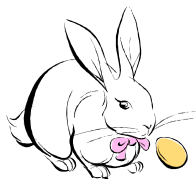


There are more projects lined up for the year and we will endeavour to keep everyone informed. The school marquee has arrived and the painting of the swimming pool will take place after this season of swimming. Both these projects are funded through last years fundraising efforts. Thank you everyone. The next fundraising meeting will be held on Thursday 15 March at 3.00pm to co-ordinate making filled rolls and/or sandwiches for the Waitomo Rugby club pre-season game on Saturday 17 March and to discuss the finer points of organising the canteen for the Waitomo Sports Day on Saturday 24 March.

Waitomo Caves Sports Day – Canteen and Easter Raffle

We would appreciate any donations of chocolates, Easter eggs or goodies for the Easter raffle. These can be handed in at school as soon as possible. Also, baking for the cake stall would be much appreciated and can be either dropped off at school on Friday 23 March, taken to the pavilion on the morning of Saturday 24 March or arrangements made with school 878 7534.



Junior Rugby

It was great to see so many boys attend the recent Otorohanga rugby muster. If parents and players prefer to be involved in the Te Kuiti club please let me know and I will forward you the details.

Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

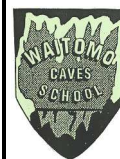
We have a project coming up where some children have requested old tin foil, CD's, old jewels, elastic to reuse, light blue milk bottle tops, some purple fabric and red ribbon. If you can save these for us they would be appreciated. Please drop them into school or call us to arrange items for collection.

Swimming Sports

The COP's swimming event is always challenging being more competitive however, once again swimmers preformed very well.



The following results are all length races from heats:



Newsletter

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Waitomo Caves

Mobile 0273910746

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Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Term One 2012

Week Six – 9 March

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Welcome to school Keira Whitehead. Keira comes from Piopio and joins the Kowhai class on Monday. We also welcome Keira's Mum Leonie, Dad Benn and younger brother Riley.

Thank you for your co-operation with the changes in parking arrangements. The school driveway and limited parking area is now designated for the school bus, staff and disabled parking. Currently staff are not using this area as well due to the work going on in the classrooms. After trialling this change it is evident the usage and space along the fence line is being used more efficiently however safety is most paramount. Children getting picked up from the area at the end of the field do not have to manoeuvre around the bus anymore. If we could all adhere to this procedure the end of day pick up will run smoothly. Please be aware that if you need to see staff and have little ones waiting in the car, as long as the bus has departed, parked up or done its thing, park in the disabled park. Do not leave children in vehicles along the road front. Also a reminder that pedestrians are not allowed walking up or down the driveway at anytime. For your own safety and the safety of others use the pathway.

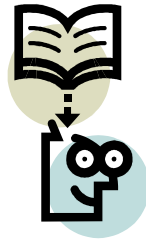


- Private Bag 501, Otorohanga.
- Telephone (07) 878-8227 • Facsimile (07) 878 8858

Proudly Supporting Waitomo Caves School

Books Change Lives

March is NZ Book Month and the National Library Service and other sponsors are supporting this by providing free books vouchers for students. Please read the details on the back of this gift to redeem your voucher. Happy shopping!



Celebrating Student Achievement

Key targets have been set as part of our Strategic Planning to raise student achievement in relation to the national standards in reading, writing and maths. After end of year assessments in 2011 for literacy and numeracy student data shows pleasing results in both areas. Children have made excellent progress towards developing their knowledge and skills within the classroom programmes.

All students are working towards achieving the National Standards in reading. 70% of our students are reading at or above their chronological reading age.

All students are working hard towards achieving the National Standards in written language. 64% of our students are writing at or above the writing standard for their year level.

All students are working towards achieving the National Standards in maths. 85% of our students are working at or above their expected numeracy level for their age in mathematics. Data also shows that 86% of our Maori students are achieving at or above their expected numeracy level for their age in maths.

Targets for 2012 within literacy and numeracy continue to strengthen student achievement in all areas in relation for the national standards. Congratulations students, wonderful learning and well done on working well to succeed!

Hearing and Vision Checks

Our new Vision Hearing Technician, Vicki Dixon will be visiting school on Monday 19 March to complete routine tests for new entrants and Year 7 students. Community services vision hearing technicians regularly visit schools to carry out routine hearing and vision checks. If any parent or caregiver does not want their child to be checked or your child is currently under specialist care for hearing or vision, you will need to let the technician know by leaving a message with the school.

Bus

Due to our bus drivers timetable on Thursdays the departure time from school will be ten minutes later than usual. The consequences are that the bus will arrive 10-15 minutes later on Thursdays and it is likely that the children will be transported in the large bus.

Year 8 Otorohanga College Experience Day

The first visit in Term 1 will be on Thursday 29 March and will be an Open Day for students and their parents. All Year 8's will be encouraged to attend. The formal handover visit for those who intend on enrolling at College will be in Term 4 on the Thursday 22 November where the students, parents and staff will attend.

School Network Upgrade Project (SNUP)

The SNUP programme involves a full school set up of cabling and switches to improve the quality of our computer network within the school and on the World Wide Web. This is a Ministry of Education initiative that many schools are taking advantage of as it provides a faster broadband connection. This project began this week and will be finished next week. The Ministry also funds 80% of the job.

As a separate initiative the Ministry are also doing a 'fibre drop' which will also be beneficial to the SNUP programme and take place in June. This is fully funded by the Ministry and will improve and speed up our network.



Totara Class have been checking out the cabling under Kauri Class. We have worked out there are 10 boxes with 300 metres of cable in each one giving a total of 3,000 metres of cable. Wow! That's a lot of times around our school field!

Fundraising

The fundraising committee met recently and are pleased with the number of responses regarding the recent survey of fundraising needs, projects and events. As the group reflected on last years projects and accomplishments it was decided to begin the next project of fundraising for more ICT equipment such as laptops and computers for student use. This is a great direction to take which compliments the new network upgrade.

Te Rito – 8 yr girls Freestyle (3rd), Backstroke (2nd).

Sian – 8 yr girls Backstroke (3rd).

Peta – 10 yr boys Breaststroke (1st).

Te Hurinui – 10 yr boys Breaststroke (2nd).

Tiana – 10 yr girls Breaststroke (1st), Backstroke (1st), 2x Freestyle (3rd).

Both relays teams were placed 7th.

Each swimmer was timed and results were collated. The overall place getters were:

Peta – 1 length Breaststroke (5th).

Te Hurinui – 1 length Breaststroke (6th).

Tiana – 1 length Breaststroke (8th), 1 length Backstroke (9th).

Like the small schools swimming sports our 7 yr olds competed in the 8 yr old categories and swam very well. Congratulations everyone you really are champions. Thank you Miria, Maxine, Patricia and Tanchia for providing transport. Special thanks to Patricia for being our official time keeper for the day.

Today we have swimmers competing at the Waitomo Inter-Schools Swimming Day. Good luck Te Hurinui, Blaze, Peta, Angel, Portia, Tiana, Kyah, Te Rito, Arleyah, Keely and Sian. We will keep you updated with their progress in the next newsletter.

Community News

The Maniapoto Netball Centre are having a 'Fun Netball Day' on Saturday 17 March from 10am to 1pm. All welcome.

Pureora Cycle Carnival – Mountain bike competitive and fun rides for the whole family on Saturday 10 March. Starts 9am at Pa Harakeke. Also entertainment & stalls throughout the day. Contact Daniel – (07) 829 8708.

Piopio Cycle Time King Country Classic – Mountain bike event with distances to suit all ages and abilities. Saturday 17 March. Starts 9.30am at Piopio College. \$1,000 worth of spot prizes, contact Cheryl (07) 878 6640.

What's Coming Up At Waitomo Caves School

13 March	BOT Charter meeting
15 March	Fundraising meeting
17 March	Prep lunch for pre season rugby game
24 March	Waitomo Sports Day
19 March	Hearing and Vision checks

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Principal ☺

